

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An active splitter for splitting a received input signal into a plurality of split output signals, the active splitter comprising:

a plurality of active circuits connected in parallel that produce the plurality of split output signals from the received input signal, wherein each active circuit of the plurality of active circuits produces a corresponding split output signal from the plurality of split output signals that is substantially similar to the received input signal; and

a controller in signal communication with the plurality of active circuits for powering up and down the active circuits for forming one or more desired signal distribution paths from an input signal-carrying input to one or more output signal-carrying outputs.

2. (Original) The active splitter of claim 1, wherein each active circuit is a voltage follower.

3. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 2, wherein the voltage follower may include includes an emitter follower.

4. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 3, wherein the emitter follower may include includes a bipolar transistor.

5. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 3, wherein the emitter follower may include includes a Darlington pair transistor.

6. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 2, wherein the voltage follower ~~may include~~ includes a source follower.

7. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 6, wherein the source follower ~~may include~~ includes a Field Effect Transistor ("FET") transistor.

8. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 7, wherein the FET transistor ~~may be~~ is a MOFSET transistor.

9. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 7, wherein the FET transistor ~~may be~~ is a CMOS transistor.

10. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 2, wherein the voltage follower ~~may include~~ includes a differential amplifier.

11. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 1, ~~further including a~~ wherein ~~the controller that is in signal communication~~ communicates with the plurality of active circuits for controlling the electrical characteristics of the plurality of active circuits.

12. (Original) The active splitter of claim 11, wherein each active circuit is a voltage follower.

13. (Original) The active splitter of claim 11, wherein the controller is in signal communication with a plurality of switches in signal communication with the plurality of active circuits, wherein each switch of the plurality of switches is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit of the plurality of active circuits to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.

14. (Original) The active splitter of claim 13, wherein each active circuit is a voltage follower.

15. (Original) The active splitter of claim 1, further including a first gain stage in signal communication with the plurality of active circuits, wherein the first gain stage receives the received input signal, produces an amplified signal from the received input signal, and passes the amplified signal to the plurality of active circuits.

16. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 15, wherein the first gain stage includes at least one first gain stage active circuit that amplifies the received input signal.

17. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 16, wherein the at least one first gain stage active circuit may include includes a common-emitter amplifier.

18. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 17, wherein the common-emitter amplifier may include includes a bipolar transistor.

19. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 18, wherein the common-emitter amplifier ~~may include~~ includes a Darlington pair transistor.

20. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 16, wherein the at least one first gain stage active circuit ~~may include~~ includes a common-source amplifier.

21. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 20, wherein the common-source amplifier ~~may include~~ includes a Field Effect Transistor (“FET”) transistor.

22. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 21, wherein the FET transistor ~~may be~~ is a MOSFET transistor.

23. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 21, wherein the FET transistor ~~may be~~ is a CMOS transistor.

24. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 16, wherein the at least one first gain stage active circuit ~~may include~~ includes a differential amplifier.

25. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 16, ~~further including a~~ wherein the controller ~~that~~ is in signal communication with the first gain stage for controlling the at least one first gain stage active circuit.

26. (Original) The active splitter of claim 25, wherein the controller is in signal communication with the plurality of active circuits for controlling the electrical characteristics of the plurality of active circuits.
27. (Original) The active splitter of claim 26, wherein each active circuit is a voltage follower.
28. (Original) The active splitter of claim 26, wherein the controller is in signal communication with a plurality of switches in signal communication with the plurality of active circuits, wherein each switch of the plurality of switches is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit of the plurality of active circuits to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.
29. (Original) The active splitter of claim 28, wherein each active circuit is a voltage follower.
30. (Currently amended) The active splitter of claim 27, wherein the controller is capable of switching between the at least one first gain stage active circuit to the plurality of voltage followers.
31. (Currently amended) A method for splitting an input signal into a plurality of output signals, with an active splitter, the method comprising:  
receiving the input signal with a plurality of voltage followers connected in parallel;

controlling the plurality of voltage followers by powering one or more of the voltage followers up or down to form one or more desired signal distribution paths from an input signal-carrying input to one or more output signal-carrying outputs; and

producing the plurality of output signals with the plurality of voltage followers in accordance with the one or more formed signal distribution paths, wherein each voltage follower of the plurality of voltage followers produces a corresponding output signal of the plurality of output signals that is substantially similar to the input signal.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, further including amplifying the input signal prior to the input signal being received by the plurality of followers.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, further including:  
determining the output values produced by the followers with a controller;  
comparing the output values produced by the followers with the input signal to the followers; and  
adjusting the amplification of the input signal with the controller based on the comparison of the output values produced by the followers and the input signal to the followers.

34. (Currently amended) An active splitter for splitting an input signal into a plurality of output signals, with an active splitter, the active splitter comprising:  
means for receiving the input signal with a plurality of voltage followers connected in parallel;

means for controlling the plurality of voltage followers by powering one or more of the voltage followers up or down to form one or more desired signal distribution paths from an input signal-carrying input to one or more output signal-carrying outputs; and

means for producing the plurality of output signals with the plurality of voltage followers in accordance with the one or more formed signal distribution paths, wherein each voltage follower of the plurality of voltage followers produces a corresponding output signal of the plurality of output signals that is substantially similar to the input signal.

35. (Original) The active splitter of claim 34, further including means for amplifying the input signal prior to its being split into a plurality of output signals.

36. (Original) The active splitter of claim 34, further including:  
means for determining the output values produced by the followers with a controller;  
means for comparing the output values produced by the followers with the input signal to the followers; and  
means for adjusting the amplification of the input signal with the controller based on the comparison of the output values produced by the followers and the input signal to the followers.

Please add new claims 37 – 50 as follows:

37. (New) The active splitter of claim 1 comprising a plurality of switches in signal communication with the controller and with the plurality of active circuits, wherein each switch is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.

38. (New) The active splitter of claim 15 comprising a plurality of switches in signal communication with the controller and with the plurality of active circuits, wherein each switch is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.

39. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein controlling the plurality of voltage followers comprises switching one or more of the voltage followers to a state of ON or OFF.

40. (New) The active splitter of claim 34 wherein the controlling means comprises means for switching one or more of the voltage followers to a state of ON or OFF.

41. (New) An active splitter for splitting a plurality of received input signals into a plurality of split output signals, the active splitter comprising:

a plurality of first active circuits connected in parallel and producing the plurality of split output signals from a first input signal of the plurality of received input signals, wherein each first active circuit produces a corresponding first split output signal from the plurality of split output signals that is substantially similar to the first input signal; and

a plurality of second active circuits connected in parallel and producing the plurality of split output signals from a second input signal of the plurality of received input signals, wherein each second active circuit produces a corresponding second split output signal from the plurality of split output signals that is substantially similar to the second input signal.

42. (New) The active splitter of claim 41, further including a controller in signal communication with the plurality of first and second active circuits for powering up and down the first and second active circuits for forming one or more desired signal distribution paths from respective inputs carrying the first and second input signals to corresponding outputs carrying the first and second split output signals.

43. (New) The active splitter of claim 42 comprising a plurality of switches in signal communication with the controller and with the plurality of first and second active circuits, wherein each switch is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.

44. (New) The active splitter of claim 41, further including a controller that is in signal communication with the plurality of first and second active circuits for controlling the electrical characteristics of the plurality of first and second active circuits.

45. (New) The active splitter of claim 44, wherein the controller is in signal communication with a plurality of switches in signal communication with the plurality of first and second active circuits, wherein each switch of the plurality of switches is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit of the plurality of first and second active circuits to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.

46. (New) The active splitter of claim 41, further including a first gain stage in signal communication with the plurality of first and second active circuits, wherein the first gain stage

receives the plurality of received input signals,  
produces amplified signals from the plurality of received input signals, and  
passes the amplified signals to the plurality of first and second active circuits.

47. (New) The active splitter of claim 46, wherein the first gain stage includes at least one first gain stage active circuit that amplifies at least one of the received input signals.

48. (New) The active splitter of claim 47, further including a controller in signal communication with the first gain stage for controlling the at least one first gain stage active circuit.

49. (New) The active splitter of claim 48 wherein the controller is in signal communication with the plurality of first and second active circuits for controlling the electrical characteristics of the plurality of first and second active circuits.

50. (New) The active splitter of claim 49 comprising a plurality of switches in signal communication with the controller and with the plurality of first and second active circuits, wherein each switch is capable of switching a corresponding active circuit to a state of ON or OFF in response to a control signal from the controller.